

## 'A Time for Burning'

Not so distant racial history of the City of Omaha needs to be remembered.

**OPINION**  
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# gateway

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA SINCE 1913

Bellwether Boutique

Local downtown shop has eclectic fashion offerings

**ENTERTAINMENT**  
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VOLUME 08 | ISSUE 42

TUESDAY | MARCH 10, 2009

## Binge drinking consequences subject of event on Thursday

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

Freshman Miranda Nickel sat on a bench outside her 8 a.m. class in Arts and Sciences Hall sobbing uncontrollably.

Nickel, 21, was on the phone with her boyfriend, telling him she had slept with someone she met at a concert the night before.

"At this point, I'm really emotional," Nickel said. "I couldn't believe I would do anything like that, especially to my boyfriend."

Eventually, Nickel decided to skip her Nov. 17 class and return to her room at University Village. On the way back, she encountered a Campus Security officer who escorted the 32-year-old man she met the night before off campus.

As cliché as it sounds, Nickel had just become a statistic. And she's far from alone.

The average female Nebraskan college student has experienced 5.0 problems with alcohol over the past six months, with male students averaging 5.4 problems in the same period, according to the College Alcohol Profile project.

Alcohol on campus, particularly binge drinking, affects a large segment of UNO's population, often in a negative manner. Around two out of every five college students take part in binge drinking, in total shelling out about \$5.5 billion on alcohol each year.

With spring break approaching, UNO will host an event on Thursday designed to educate students about the dangers of binge drinking.

"U kNow Choices: Choose to Care" will bring a speaker to campus along with an obstacle course with tricycles and beer goggles and a panel discussion on the consequences of binge drinking.

Student Health Services, Alcohol and Other Drug Education and the Sam Spady Foundation are sponsoring the event, which was organized by Maverick PR, the UNO chapter of Public Relations Student Society of America.

At 11:30 a.m., Patty Spady, founder of the Sam Spady Foundation, will share the story of her daughter Samantha's death after consuming excessive amounts of alcohol at a fraternity party at Colorado State University.

SEE **CHOICES**: PAGE 11

## Mavs break winless streak with series sweep in CCHA playoffs



UNO goaltender Jerad Kaufmann stops a shot by Ferris State's Todd Pockocke during Friday's CCHA playoff game. Kaufmann posted the first postseason shutout in program history as the Mavs beat Ferris State 3-0. (MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

With 22 seconds remaining in the third period, coach Mike Kemp saw senior forward J.P. Platisha line up against Ferris State's Aaron Lewicki for a faceoff in the offensive zone.

It was then, Kemp said, he finally pocketed his scorecard and allowed himself to realize the Mavericks had shutout the Bulldogs 3-0, breaking a school-record 14-game winless streak while earning the team's first

shutout in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association playoffs.

"I think when we had a weekend off, there was a clean break," Kemp said. "You can see players playing differently. They've refocused, and they're playing playoff hockey right now."

Junior defenseman Eddie DelGrosso said the team is working together and focusing on the fundamentals.

"I think the biggest part is that we've stuck to our systems. If everyone does our job right,

we're in the passing lanes, and they have to pass through us," DelGrosso said. "Instead of playing selfish hockey, we're all working together. We're one group."

Senior goaltender Jerad Kaufmann was the star of Friday night's game, collecting his fourth career shutout — his first of the year — accumulating 24 saves on the night.

Freshman forward Alex Hudson got the Maverick offense started at 5:28 in the

SEE **HOCKEY**: PAGE 6

## Fund A student fees approved by commission, Student Senate

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

&

**CAITRIN SHIRAZI**  
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

Students will be paying an additional \$1.41 each towards Fund A University Program and Facilities Fees next year after budget increases were approved last week by the Student Activities Budget Commission and the Student Senate.

The commission met on March 2 to hold a final hearing on Fund A, which supports Student Government, its agencies, Maverick Productions and a portion of The Gateway. Representatives from the student-run organizations were on hand as commission members reviewed the numbers.

Wade Robinson, associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs, also attended the hearing with representatives of Fund B and miscellaneous fee supported groups, which include the Milo Bail Student Center, men's and women's athletics, Campus Recreation, MavCard Services, Student Health Services and campus music groups.

The commission approved a \$47,929.42 overall increase in generated Fund A student fees, allocating \$504,937.42 for next year. The specific allocations are

- American Multicultural Students, \$6,102.75;
- Gender and Sexual Orientation, \$6,983.40;
- International Student Services, \$4,917.22;
- Network for disAbled Students, \$5,840.10;
- Women's Resource Center, \$4,485.65;

SEE **FEES**: PAGE 4

## Hagel to be visiting professor for Public Affairs, Community Service

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

Students in the College of Public Affairs and Community Service will have a new visiting professor soon: former U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel.

Hagel has accepted a special appointment as a UNO Distinguished Centennial Visiting Professor, an arrangement allowing him to periodically visit campus to give guest lectures, participate in forums and seminars as well as meet with faculty and students.

"I'm honored to have an opportunity to stay connected to UNO and Nebraska through this appointment," Hagel said. "I look

forward to my visits to UNO and helping this excellent institution in every way I can."

Hagel accepted the appointment after being approached by CPACS Dean B.J. Reed, who said he first spoke to the senator after a Democracy Matters forum on campus in October.

Reed said he couldn't think of a similar arrangement at UNO since he's been at the university. The appointment is by mutual agreement, and will last as long as Hagel and UNO both wish to continue it.

"This is extremely exciting for our college and for all of UNO," Reed said. "The senator has been



CHUCK KENNEDY/MCT

a great friend and has always been a proud part of our campus

community."

CPACS isn't paying Hagel for the appointment, although the college did offer to pay his travel expenses, Reed said. It is unknown whether Hagel will even ask for that reimbursement, though.

Hagel, 62, is a UNO alumnus, holding a bachelor's degree in general studies from the university. Upon his retirement, he donated his entire Senate archives to the UNO Criss Library.

In addition to his visiting professorship at UNO, Hagel recently accepted a position in the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University as a distinguished professor in the

SEE **HAGEL**: PAGE 3



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## Water line break spills out onto Dodge Street



Worker assess the damage on Dodge Street following a water main break near campus on Friday. (VALERIE LOSEKE/THE GATEWAY)

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

A broken water main left the Milo Bail Student Center without water service and shut down much of Dodge Street near campus Friday.

The trouble was caused by a broken water-service line connecting the Dodge Street campus to a water main, said Metropolitan Utilities District spokeswoman Mari Matulka.

The university owns the broken line, so it's responsible for making repairs.

Four lanes of traffic were closed Friday morning, with only one lane for westbound traffic.

By mid-afternoon, a second lane was opened, restoring eastbound traffic.

On an average day, between 46,000 and 60,000 vehicles traverse Dodge Street in the affected area, from Happy Hollow Boulevard to 62nd Street, according to data from the Omaha Public Works Department.

The water-service line broke around 1 a.m. Friday, said UNO spokeswoman Wendy Townley. Water service was restored to the student center by 3 p.m.

Although the student center remained open, restrooms were

SEE **WATER:** PAGE 3

## Spring break in Mexico: State Department warns students could encounter drug cartels, gang wars

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

While Mexico is a popular destination for tens of thousands of American college students every year, drug-related violence in the border region may pose serious risks to students traveling to tourist areas in Tijuana and elsewhere.

Kit Wilson had been snorkeling and sunbathing for three days in Akumal, on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, when the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs issued an alert for travelers heading to Mexico.

Wilson hadn't heard about it, but had gotten her own kind of warning when she and four friends traveled to the coast from Cancun to the beach house they had rented. Police were funneling cars off the

freeway for searches.

When the group from Minneapolis arrived at the rental house, the caretakers told them to lock the doors and that a guard would be on duty each night.

"I assumed the guards were to ward off robbers," said Wilson, who has been to Mexico five times in the past 12 years. "I didn't feel a sense of danger in any way."

The travel warning cautions the more than 100,000 American teenagers and young adults who annually travel to Mexico to use more caution this year when planning their spring break.

"Mexican drug cartels are engaged in an increasingly violent conflict — both among themselves and with Mexican security services — for control of

SEE **MEXICO:** PAGE 3



Fresh blood fills the bed of a municipal police truck after a Juarez municipal police captain was shot and killed May 6, 2008, in Juarez, Mexico. More than a month after Mexican President Felipe Calderon dispatched over 2,000 soldiers to the troubled border city, execution-style murders remained commonplace — and usually unsolved — as heavily-armed drug cartels battled for control of lucrative drug-smuggling routes into the United States. (TOM PENNINGTON/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM/MCT)

## Spring enrollment numbers up across NU system

**SCOTT STEWART**  
NEWS EDITOR

Enrollment for the spring semester is up 2.1 percent across the University of Nebraska, according to a report released as part of Friday's Board of Regents meeting agenda.

UNO's enrollment matched the average growth around the NU system, with a total of 13,431 students enrolled on campus this semester.

The campus' biggest gains came in University Division, which picked up 22 new students for a 28.6 percent increase, and first-time freshmen, which increased 28.6 percent to 99

total students. The biggest loss was in non-degree students, which dropped 26 students or 7.2 percent.

UNO also saw an 11.2 percent increase in nonresident enrollment compared with last year, while only drawing a 1.3 percent increase in resident enrollment.

Full-time equivalent enrollment at UNO now stands at 10,265, which is a 2.5 percent increase from last year. Full-time equivalence is computed as full-time students plus one-third of part-time headcount enrollment.

The campus also had a 2.3 percent increase in total credit hours attempted, with 146,038 credits

being taken this spring, which is a 3,231 credit increase from last year.

Enrollment at each of the other three NU campuses, as well as the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture, was also up, according to the report.

UNL saw a 2.3 percent net increase, while UNMC saw 2.1 percent, as well, but UNK only saw a 0.7 percent increase. The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, Neb., saw an increase of 38 students, which corresponds

to 14.3 percent enrollment boost.

University-wide, 44,964 students enrolled this spring, compared with 44,053 last year. The system's only overall decline came with first-time freshmen, dropping 14.3 percent across the system with only 210 students enrolling.

For complete details, see the Board of Regents March meeting agenda, which is available online at [nebraska.edu](http://nebraska.edu).

### FOR THE RECORD

In the March 3 news story "Fashion show to offer tips on what to wear to an interview, on the job," the UNO Honors Program was omitted as a sponsor of the Dress for Success Fashion Show. Volunteers from the program helped plan the event and participated as models and backstage help, with the program's Student Advisory Board splitting the costs of the event with Delta Epsilon Iota. The Gateway apologizes for the omission.

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# Student Senate tables environmental legislation package

MARK REAGAN  
STAFF WRITER

The Student Senate decided to hold off on six resolutions Thursday designed to encourage UNO's administration to consider environmental sustainability.

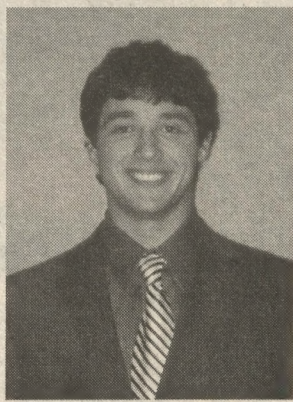
In the end, a motion by Sen. Thomas Kocanda and a close 24-20 vote of the senate tabled the resolutions until Sens. Michael Crabb and Elizabeth O'Connor, the resolutions' sponsors, brought in experts to answer the questions concerning the resolutions.

Both said they could not answer all questions concerning the resolutions because they weren't experts, and they agreed to accommodate the request for answers at the next senate meeting.

Student Government President Neal Bonacci said the resolutions were looked over and approved by the university's sustainability task force. The resolutions would not require any direct expenditures, with their purpose simply to suggest to UNO's administration that students want them to proceed into the future with sustainability in mind.

"They are resolutions that do not

require specific action but only strongly encourages the administration to set these high standards in the future," Crabb said.



MICHAEL CRABB

One resolution considered improving transportation connections with campus through an arrangement with Metro Transit System. Sen. Nathan Kirkland protested, saying the costs associated with implementing such a program would be passed along to students.

Another resolution addressed purchasing guidelines for efficiency and environmental sustainability, recognizing that UNO has no policy

directing what kinds of supplies are purchased. This resolution suggested the university adopt the government's Energy Star purchasing guidelines.

A third resolution encouraged the university to consider sustainable landscaping projects.

The resolution suggests that the administration adopt LEED Gold, the minimum green building standard, for all new construction and also to stop buying products with formaldehyde.

A fourth resolution asked the campus to consider eco-friendly replacements for

plastic foam cups and bleached napkins in the cafeteria, listing NatureWorks as a possible provider.

The final issue concerning sustainability was the creation of a sustainability director, which Kirkland argued would cost too much. Crabb defended the resolutions, arguing that no direct cost was associated with any of them.

In other business, Student Government appointed Maida Avdic the director of Network for disAbled

Students, filling a vacancy in the position. Senators also approved an appearance

by the Pancake Man for Student Government Day and approved the Student Activities Budget Commission's student fee recommendations with a 16-3 vote with two senators present but not voting.

A letter of statement was also passed to support Information Technology Services' preliminary decision to migrate the campus e-mail service from Lotus Notes to Google Apps for Education.

Bonacci said University of Nebraska President James B. Milliken had asked the student governments at UNO, UNMC, UNK and UNL to look into the proposal.

The next meeting of the Student Senate will be on March 26 at 7 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Dodge Room.



ELIZABETH O'CONNOR

## Memorial fund founded in memory of history professor

SCOTT STEWART  
NEWS EDITOR

A UNO history professor passed away at the beginning of March after an extended illness.

June L. Mecham, 35, was an assistant professor of history specializing in medieval and women's history. Her research interests included female spirituality and monasticism, as well as the interaction between material culture and devotional practices in late medieval Germany.

Mecham joined the UNO History Department in 2005, and she had frequently taught a survey course in medieval history and a course in women in medieval and renaissance society.

She also served as an assistant editor for the Web site MonasticMatrix, a scholarly resource for the students of women's



JUNE MECHAM

religious communities from 400 A.D. to 1600 A.D.

This semester, Mecham was teaching a special topics course on the UNO Women's Centennial Archive Project. The Internet mediated course will be taught by department chair Sharon Wood with assistance from other faculty members, Wood said.

Mecham is survived by her husband Gary Mecham, her daughter Evelyn

Mecham and her mother Sheryl Mueller. A memorial service was held Thursday at All Saints Episcopal Church in Omaha.

A memorial fund was also established at Mid City Bank with the proceeds of gifts intended as a college fund for Evelyn.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the June L. Mecham Memorial Fund can do so at any branch office of Mid City Bank or by care of Wood or professor Mark Scherer.

### FROM HAGEL: PAGE 1

practice of national government.

Hagel also replaced Gen. James L. Jones as chairman of the Atlantic Council, a nonpartisan think tank focused on U.S. leadership and engagement in international affairs.

In business pursuits, Hagel announced he will be an adviser to Omaha-based McCarthy Capital Corp., a company that manages nearly \$1 billion in assets, and has joined the advisory board for Consair Capital, a private equity firm in New York.

Before being elected to the senate in 1996, Hagel had served as the president of McCarthy and Co. for four years. He began his career in 1969 as a newscaster and talk

show host in Omaha.

During his time in the Senate, Hagel had been a member of the Committee on Foreign Relations; the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs; the Select Committee on Intelligence; and the Committee on Rules and Administration.

Chancellor John Christensen said Hagel will be an important asset for the university.

"Our students will benefit tremendously from his presence," Christensen said.

"His 12 years in the Senate covered so many issues - from the impeachment of a president to Sept. 11 to the ongoing economic problems the country faces today."

### FROM WATER: PAGE 2

unavailable until water service was restored. Food Services offered only a limited menu of items - mostly prepared "grab and go" items.

Overall, the university lost about \$8,000 in revenue due to the limited offerings, said Mike Milone, director of Food Services.

Milone anticipated no problems with university catering to the Women's

and Gender Studies Program No Limits Conference or the International Student Services International Banquet being held in the student center over the weekend.

A text message alert was sent to students enrolled in the e2Campus emergency alert system to notify them of the incident. The text was sent at 9:28 a.m. with e-mail updates sent to the campus community at 10:40 a.m. and at 2:52 p.m.

### FROM MEXICO: PAGE 2

narcotics trafficking routes along the U.S.-Mexico border," according to the State Department. "Some recent Mexican army and police confrontations with drug cartels have resembled small-unit combat, with cartels employing automatic weapons and grenades."

The State Department encourages travelers to be aware of the differences in Mexican law, register with the U.S. Embassy and review specific warning information online. In addition, the department urges travelers to understand the risks of traveling to Mexico, how to avoid dangerous situations and who to contact in an emergency.

The State Department reminds students of the consequences of drug or alcohol use abroad can be more severe than in the United States.

"Excessive alcohol consumption and unruly behavior can lead to serious problems with Mexican authorities," according to the State Department. "Alcohol is involved

in the vast majority of arrests, accidents, violent crimes, rapes and deaths suffered by American students on spring break."

While UNL and Creighton warned students of the travel warning by e-mail and text messages respectively, UNO has not issued any sort of mass alert for spring break travelers.

"UNO prefers to reserve the use of mass e-mail to official university business," said Rita Henry, assistant vice chancellor for Student Affairs. "We thought a story in The Gateway combined with stories in the news media would be sufficient to alert students to the concerns of traveling to Mexico."

A complete list of travel warnings is available online at travel.state.gov. A State Department guide specifically for travelers going to Mexico during spring break is available online at tinyurl.com/adcahr.

Kerri Westenberg and Jenna Ross of the Minneapolis Star Tribune contributed to this report through McClatchy-Tribune Information Services.

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# CULTURE ~ FAIR ~

Students gathered in the Milo Bail Student Center last week for International Student Services' culture fair, a prelude to its annual International Banquet event.

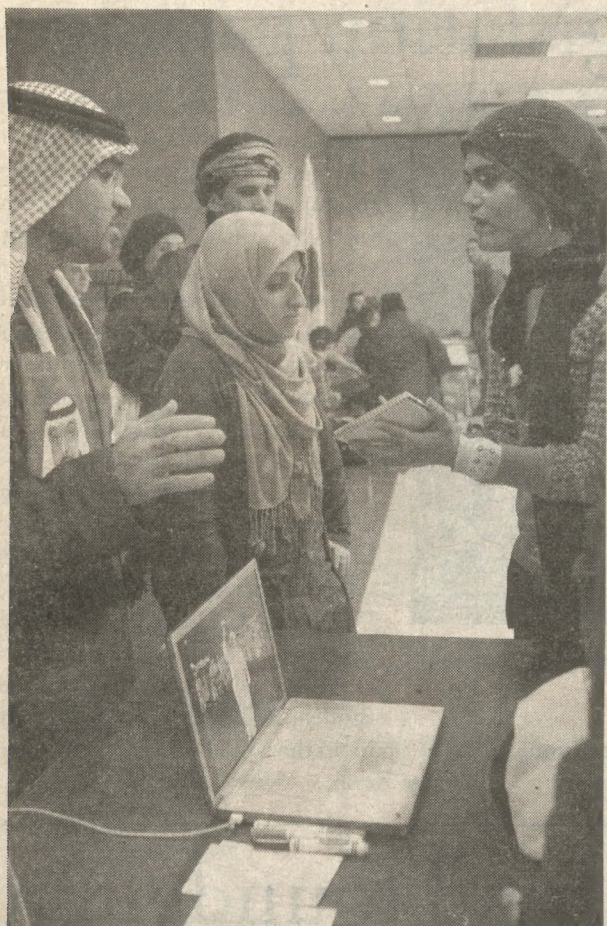
At left, Abdullah Almazem talks with a crowd of students about the United Arab Emirates. Almazem is currently in a two-year English language course at UNO.

At bottom left, from left to right, Ting Wang, Ran Xiao and Leo Zhang pose for a photo. The trio represented China at the fair. Wang and Xiao are language students, while Zhang is an economics major.

At bottom right, junior Meghan Jensen and Khalid Allassikhi present information about the Sultanate of Oman on Wednesday. Jensen is an international studies major, and Allassikhi teaches Arabic at UNO.

At right, a detail from the China table shows an assortment of cultural artifacts.

PHOTOS BY  
JOE SHEARER/THE GATEWAY



## FROM FEES: PAGE 1

- Agency Programming, \$40,221.50;
- Student Government operational, \$174,121.50;
- Student Government contingency, \$10,300;
- Maverick Productions, \$152,965.30; and
- The Gateway, \$99,000;

The agency programming budget is divided among the five groups with \$7,725 going to AMS; \$10,094 to GSO; \$8,240 to ISS; \$6,180 going to NdS; and \$7,982.50 to WRC.

The Student Government operational line item also includes an \$118,450 earmark for the Collegiate Readership Program, which brings copies of The New York Times, Omaha World-Herald and USA Today to students at the cost of \$3.48 per student.

The allocations for Maverick Productions equate to \$4.49 per student, and \$2.91 per student will support The Gateway.

Robinson started both the commission meeting and senate meeting by discussing the Fund B increases, which include a \$25 increase to the new student fee, additional fees for College of Business Administration students and a new cultural enrichment fee.

The cultural enrichment fee will be \$4 per student per semester and will support cultural events across campus sponsored by the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media.

"Over time, we are offering to the campus many, many cultural activities, but we really don't have the resources to do it at the quality and the level we would like to do it," Gail Baker, dean of the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media, said at the Student Senate meeting. "What we would like to do is to have the students help support what is one of the jewels of the campus, which is the cultural aspects we have here at UNO."

With this new fee and system in place, students will be able to enter university cultural events by showing their MavCards, much like the free tickets to Maverick athletic events.

"This will open up some great points for

the university," Robinson said. "It supports university life, is a great recruiting tool because we're able to feature some things to more students, raises the campus' visibility in the community and will allow us to bring events to campus that we might not have been able to otherwise."

Another Fund B student fees increase will support a bond issue for the renovation and expansion project for the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building. Students will also continue to pay for parking at Crossroads Mall until an alternative arrangement can be made at Aksarben Village or elsewhere.

Overall, Robinson said he was comfortable with the increases supported by the Student Activities Budget Commission and the Student Senate.

"It's a reasonable increase," Robinson said. "I'm very comfortable with what you've asked for, because I know the history and the reasoning behind it."

Sen. Jeff Johnson, a member of the commission, said the agencies requesting additions were able to "justify every last penny," which is why he supported the increases.

A couple senators, however, disagreed with Johnson, but the resolution approving the fee increases passed 16-3 with two members present but not voting. Opposing the resolution were Sens. Nathan Kirkland, Keyrolos Bottros and Samuel Saunders.

Kirkland voted against the resolution because he objected to Student Government using student fees for internal awards. Saunders voted against the resolution because he said the fee-receiving entities could just have come before the Student Senate to ask for allocations from Student Government's Reserve Fund.

With the commission and senate's approvals, Robinson said the requests would be passed along to the University of Nebraska central administration offices at Varner Hall in Lincoln.

The rest of the student fee proposals, except for Fund A, will be brought before the Board of Regents on April 24 for final approval.

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Softball team goes 4-1 over weekend tourney

MARCUS HANSEN  
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO softball team began the Missouri Southern weekend tournament undefeated with three wins on Friday.

In the opening game, UNO defeated Northwest Missouri 8-3. This was the fourth win for the sophomore pitcher Beth Haley.

UNO then played Drury University. Defensive plays and pitching were key for UNO in beating Drury 2-1 in extra innings. The game lasted nine innings and UNO junior pitcher Melissa Negrete secured all 27 outs.

The Mavs finished the day by beating Oklahoma State, 2-1.

Sophomore left-handed pitcher Lindsey Slocum pitched another complete game for the Mavs. She allowed one hit and one run and had nine strikeouts. The UNO pitchers allowed three earned runs, making their ERA 0.91 for the day.

In addition, the pitchers gave up 13 hits and struck out 24. However, Saturday

morning Cameron University was out to ruin the Mavs' party.

UNO fell to Cameron in 10 innings, losing 6-4. The Mavs, leading through the 7th inning, gave up a tying run to put the game into extra innings. A few innings later, the Aggies scored a heartbreaking unearned run in the ninth.

Shortly after, senior outfielder Amanda Bader drove in a run in the bottom of the ninth to tie the game.

Haley, pitching in her 17th inning in two days, gave up two runs in the top of the 10th on a ground out and a single. The Mavs were unable to score back in the bottom of the inning, giving the women their first and only loss of the tournament and Haley's first loss of the year.

The Mavs rebounded by winning their next and final game in five innings by 10 runs against Fort Hays State. The final score was 11-1, ending early due to the eight run rule.

The Mavs are 9-3 as they open their first home game today at 2 p.m. at Claussen-Westgate Field.

Maverick track, field team prepares for national championship meet on Friday

SEAN OWENS  
STAFF WRITER

UNO's newly crowned Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association champion track and field team will prepare this week in Houston, for the National Collegiate Athletics Association D-II indoor championships on Friday and Saturday.

The team will be competing for the national title after securing UNO's first MIAA championship two weeks ago.

Senior sprinter Pinar Saka, sophomore sprinter Anja Puc, sophomore sprinter Kayla Koepke, freshman sprinter Maja Mihalinec, junior multi-event specialist Shannon Moore and sophomore mid-distance runner Jolene Smith will represent UNO at the two-day event.

"We have the No. 1 ranking in the 200- 400- and the 800-meter going in, but you still have to go out there and compete like it's anyone's race," Coach Steve Smith said.

Saka, posting the top spots in both the 200- and 400-metersprints, will also compete in the 4x400-meter relay for the Mavericks. The senior will also be competing for her third straight weekend, as she

represented her native country of Turkey in the 2009 European Athletics Indoor Championships on March 7.

Also sprinting for UNO, Mihalinec will compete in the 60-meter event. Mihalinec, a native of Mozirje, Slovenia, qualified for the 14th spot in the event and won the 60-meter event one week ago in the D-II MIAA championships with a time of 7.70 seconds.

"I think she has a good chance to win this event," Smith said. "At the nationals anything can happen and she's a good runner, so I like her chances."

Competing in the pentathlon for the Mavericks, Moore will try to top her previous performance in the MIAA championships, in which she ended with a fourth-place finish.

Puc, holding the No. 1 spot in the 800-meter event, will try



Anja Puc will compete in the 800-meter run.  
(COURTESY STEVE SMITH)

to break her school record time of 2:09.44. She broke a 23-year-old UNO school record earlier this season set by Janice Moreau in 1985.

The event will start at 9 a.m. on Friday.

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Budget Commission  
& Student  
Government

If you would like more information  
please contact the Student  
Government Office at 554-2620.

American Multicultural Students	\$ 6,102.75
Gender and Sexual Orientation	\$ 6,983.40
International Students Services	\$ 4,917.22
Network for disabled Students	\$ 5,840.10
Women's Resource Center	\$ 4,485.65
Agency Programming:	\$ 40,221.50
American Multicultural Students	\$ 7,725.00
Gender and Sexual Orientation	\$ 10,094.00
International Students Services	\$ 8,240.00
Network for disabled Students	\$ 6,180.00
Women's Resource Center	\$ 7,982.50
Student Government:	\$174,121.50
Operational	\$ 55,671.50
Collegiate Readership Program (\$3.48 per student)	\$118,450.00
Maverick Productions (\$4.49 per student)	\$152,965.30
The Gateway (\$2.91 per student)	\$ 99,000.00
Student Government Contingency	\$ 10,300.00
Grand Total	\$504,937.42



FROM **HOCKEY:** PAGE 1

second period, putting the puck past Ferris State's Taylor Nelson off a quick pass from sophomore forward Rich Purslow.

Platisha earned his first goal of the season as the Mavs found themselves on the giving end of a shorthanded goal after a pass from DelGrosso and junior forward JJ Koehler.

Sophomore forward Matt Ambroz kept the UNO offense going early in the third period, earning a power-play marker at 1:21. He put the puck over Nelson's right shoulder off a pass in front of the goal from Purslow and junior defenseman Mark Bernier.

The Mav defense then held on, with Kaufmann blocking 13 shots in the final frame, including five after Ferris State pulled its goaltender with 3:45 remaining in the game.

"I think it was really important for us to come out with that first win," DelGrosso said. "The team has been kind of fragile lately with that winless streak."

On Saturday, the Mavs again found the net first, with Ambroz burying the puck from the middle of the offensive zone on a power play with 1:06 left in the first period.

Sophomore forward Joey Martin stepped up 1:31 into the second, making it 2-0 by catching Ferris State goaltender Pat Nagle stranded on the far side of the goal with an assist from senior Dan Charleston.

Koehler gave UNO a three-point advantage two minutes later, putting the puck through Nagel's pads.

Ferris State finally got on the scoreboard at 7:16 in the second period, when center Brendan Connolly sneaked the puck past a sprawling Kaufmann, tipping in a shot from Lewicki.

Martin netted his second goal of the night with five minutes remaining in the second, restoring the Mavs' three-point advantage going into the second intermission.

DelGrosso picked up the second short-handed goal of the series at 10:55 in the third period, feeding in a pass from junior forward Jeric Agosta, who stole the puck in the neutral zone to set up the shot.

Connolly, a senior making his final appearance in CCHA play, netted his second goal of the night on a power play less than a minute later, but the Bulldogs were unable to make up the three-point difference to force another game to resolve the series.

Ambroz and Ferris State's Matt Case were given 10-minute misconducts at 13:39 in the third, after both were whistled for cross-checking. Ambroz was called for

roughing after the whistle and Case was given another penalty for grasping the facemask.

"I think it's a huge confidence booster for all the boys," Kaufmann said of the win. "We put up a lot of goals this weekend and our defense played incredible."

Kemp said his team played solid hockey, with his biggest frustration being that Tomas Klempa can't get his 100th career point. While his team isn't relaxed, the frustration of the winless streak has lifted.

"There's a heightened sense of urgency when we're preparing to go out to play the game, but I don't think there's a panic," Kemp said. "I think there's an excitement to play, but it's not a fear, and that's a positive."

The Mavs will now go on to face Notre Dame, the No. 1 seed in the tournament, having finished 27-5-3 overall this season with a 21-4-3-3 record in CCHA play.

"We're going to have to play a very smart, through, error-free game, and hopefully capitalize when we get our chances," Kemp said. "If we can continue to do the things we're doing, great things can happen the rest of the way."

DelGrosso said the team was healthier than it has been advancing to the second round of the tournament the last couple years.

The Mavs also won't be worn out from a three-game series this weekend, unlike after the triple-overtime win against Alaska last year.

"We're going in healthy, and I think we're going in hot as in these two games," DelGrosso said.

Last year, star forward Bryan Marshall missed the last 10 games of his career, including the playoffs. The year before saw star forward Scott Parse on the bench against Michigan in the second round after skating in 159 consecutive games.

Also advancing to the CCHA quarterfinals are Ohio State, Northern Michigan and Western Michigan.

The Buckeyes swept Bowling Green, the Wildcats swept Michigan State and the Broncos edged out Lake Superior in three games.

Ohio State will travel to take on Alaska, Northern Michigan will hit the road to Miami and Michigan will host Western Michigan.

The Gateway will file reports from South Bend, Ind., on our Web site, unogateway.com, for the best-of-three series March 13 through March 15. For complete results from the CCHA Tournament, see the March 24 issue of The Gateway.

**Top Right:** UNO goaltender Jerad Kaufmann makes a save during Friday's CCHA playoff game. Kaufmann posted the first postseason shutout in program history as the Mavs beat Ferris State 3-0.

**Middle Right:** UNO's JJ Koehler works to get the puck out of the crease as Ferris State's Blair Riley and goaltender Jerad Kaufmann look on during Saturday's game. (Michelle Bishop/The Gateway)

**Bottom Right:** Ferris State's Brendan Connolly goes head first to the ice after tangling with UNO's Mark Bernier during Saturday's CCHA playoff game.

**Bottom:** Ferris State goaltender Taylor Nelson sits on the ice as the Mavs celebrate J.P. Platisha's goal which put UNO up 2-0 during the second period of Friday's CCHA playoff game.

PHOTOS BY  
MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY





## Mavericks end season with 66-56 loss to Fort Hays State

ZACH SEASTEDT  
CONTRIBUTOR

The UNO men's basketball team, playing in its first Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association postseason tournament, ran into a defensive brick wall as the Mavericks fell to Fort Hays State 66-56 Thursday at Kansas City Municipal Auditorium.

The Mavericks finished the season 17-11 overall and 11-9 in the conference.

Senior guard Michael Jenkins led the Mavs in scoring with 15 points in his final game for UNO.

Junior forward Dion Curry scored 14 points, while sophomore guard Mitch Albers scored 11 points.

The Mavs entered the game as the conference's second leading scorers, while Fort Hays was the MIAA's second in defense. That match up left the Mavs shooting only 34 percent from the field and only 19 percent from behind the 3-point line.

Points did not come easy for either team in the first half. The score was tied 6-6 after five minutes of play, with both teams shooting under 40 percent from the field.

A layup by Curry gave the Mavs a six-point lead with 5:48 left in the first half, but the Tigers scored 12 of the next 13 points to take a 29-24 halftime lead.



Michael Jenkins led the Mavs with 15 points during Thursday's 66-56 loss to Fort Hays State. (PHOTO BY MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

The Maverick offense went cold in the second half as Fort Hays took control for the remainder of the game. UNO came within seven points, with more than 11 minutes left in the game thanks to a 9-0 run capped off by two free throws by Jenkins. This would be the closest the Mavericks would get.

Forward Tim Peintner led the Tigers with 20 points, while guard Terry Jeffries scored 17 points.

## Women fall to Pitt State in first round of MIAA tournament

MICHELLE BISHOP  
PHOTO EDITOR

The third time wasn't the charm for the women's basketball team.

Pittsburg State ended UNO's season by edging out the Mavs 81-79 Friday night in the first round of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association tournament in front of 1,271 at Municipal Auditorium in Kansas City, Mo.

The game was the teams' third meeting this season, including the second time in a week. The Gorillas handed the Mavs a 69-56 setback on Jan. 21 and rallied for a 77-70 win at the Sapp Fieldhouse on Feb. 28 to close out the regular season.

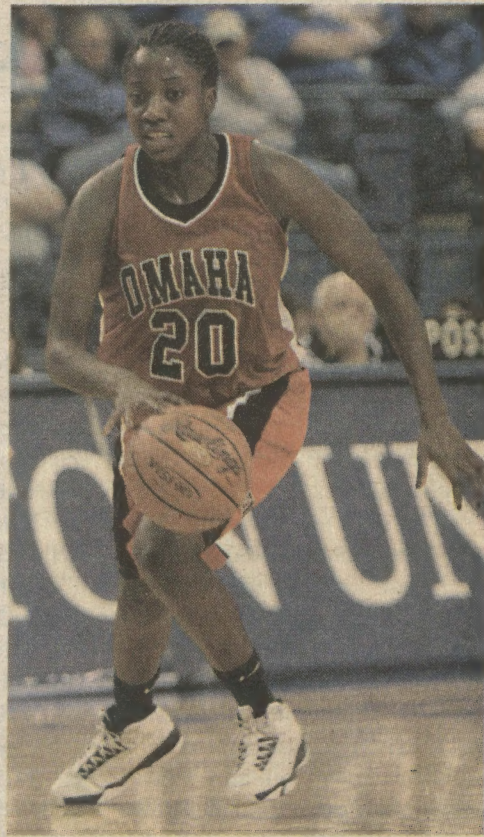
The third-seeded Gorillas (20-8, 14-6 MIAA) held a 38-29 lead at halftime and extended their lead in the second half to 16 points before the sixth-seeded Mavs responded. A 13-2 run trimmed the Gorilla lead to five points, as UNO trailed 67-62 with 6:57 remaining.

Pitt State answered by extending its lead to nine, holding a 78-69 advantage with 3:25 left. But a 9-1 run, capped by senior Amanda Brodsack's 3-pointer with 33 seconds remaining, pulled UNO within one.

Pitt State junior DePrice Taylor was fouled and made both ends of a 1-and-1 opportunity to put the Gorillas up by three with 18 seconds left.

Needing a game-tying long ball, senior Cayla Hargrove pump-faked and drew a foul as she attempted a 3-pointer with less than four seconds left. Hargrove missed two of her three free throws, resulting in the Mavs still down by two. The Mavs had one final chance but a desperate 3-pointer at the buzzer ricocheted off the backboard.

Junior Alyssa Green led the Mavs with



Alyssa Green scored a game-high 24 points during Friday's 81-79 loss to Pittsburg State. (PHOTO BY MICHELLE BISHOP/THE GATEWAY)

24 points while Hargrove and Brodsack each added 12.

Before the tournament, the MIAA announced Brodsack earned All-MIAA second team honors after leading UNO in scoring this season with an average of 13.3 points per game. Green also picked up All-MIAA honorable mention.

UNO ends the season at 15-12 overall and 11-9 in the MIAA. The Mavs finished sixth in the 11-team league after MIAA coaches picked UNO and Pitt State to finish in a tie for seventh in the preseason poll.

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Applications are available beginning March 2, 2009 in the office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, EAB 202. Application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 27, 2009. Twenty-five applicants will be interviewed. Call Chris Liewer at 554-3520 if you have questions.



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## Downtown shop showcases local designers, artists

ANNA ROSE MAHONEY  
CONTRIBUTOR

Underneath the popular dessert café Delice downtown resides one of Omaha's newest, locally owned boutiques.

Bellwether Boutique, located at 430 S. 12th St., offers shoppers an eclectic mix of clothing, furnishings, art and everything in between.

The store opened July 2008 and offers an assorted mixture of vintage fashions and apparel made by some of Omaha's budding local designers. This idea was the brainchild of owner Jessica Latham. She knew there was a thriving business for fashion boutiques downtown and wanted a location where local designers and artists could sell and display their work.

Latham, an Omaha native, graduated from Central High School in 1997 and left for New York City, where she worked a variety of jobs including modeling. Latham returned to Omaha a few years ago after she became pregnant with her daughter Avery, who is now 2 years old. Avery can often be found at the shop with her mother.

The boutique is stocked full of vintage clothing and accessories from the 1920s all the way through the 1980s. Latham said she finds clothing from various places like the Internet, estate sales and thrift stores.

"I get old ladies calling me all the time," laughed Latham.

But Buf Reynolds, Imagine, Autopilot and Itchy are just a few of the local designers that sell their items in the store, too.

Bellwether doesn't exclusively cater to the females either. The boutique also offers a wide selection of men's coats, pants, shoes and T-shirts.

Even the artwork displayed at Bellwether is from local artists.

"Most of them are my friends," Latham said.

The unique décor of the shop will remind customers of a garage sale where just about everything is for sale.

Just a few weeks ago, Bellwether intern Jen Go said a shopper came in and bought an antique hospital gurney. The gurney was originally being used to display pants.

"I can't believe someone actually bought that," Go said. "I think that's kind of creepy."

But with the weather getting warmer, Latham said the shop will be expanding this summer. She's already planning the building of a partially-covered patio in front of the store, a new staircase and a 1920s-style "speakeasy" in the rest of the lower level.

"There will be bookshelves on either sides of the bar [in the speakeasy]," Latham said. "So you can sit and read a book if



**Top:** Bellwether Boutique's owner Jessica Latham makes adjustments to a dress sold in her store. (ANNA ROSE MAHONEY/THE GATEWAY)

**Right:** Bellwether sells clothing, both vintage and new, as well as artwork created by local designers. (ANNA ROSE MAHONEY/THE GATEWAY)

you want."

With the new additions of Bellwether ready to go, Latham hopes her boutique will create a fresh, new environment for some of Omaha's more unique individuals to gather.

"Weirdness encouraged," Latham said.



## Spring break in, around Omaha

DANIELLE SHERMAN  
CONTRIBUTOR

For most college students, spring break is a time to let down their hair and kick back.

It means a full week off from school; no class, no teachers and no worries. Many book flights months in advance to party it up in exotic places like Cancun, Panama City and South Padre Island. Others travel to either coastline for some fun in the sun.

But, with the recession and money being tight, some spring breakers are forced to stay home and work or travel to less desirable locations for some rest and relaxation.

However, there are still a few locations in and around the metro that make for an easy and enjoyable getaway without breaking the bank.

Mahoney State Park near Ashland has a number of activities for students to partake in. The modern recreational park offers fishing, golf, archery, mini-golf, horseback riding and a theater with live shows.

If Nebraska weather turns cold again, the CoCo



The CoCo Key Water Resort is over 60,000-sq. ft and includes an indoor/outdoor spa, three 40-foot waterslides and an outdoor deck. (PHOTO COURTESY OF NEUMAN GROUP)

Key Indoor Water Resort will be turning up the heat. Just minutes from campus, CoCo Key is connected to the Holiday Inn hotel on south 72nd street and can serve as a home away from home.

For others, camping and hiking is where it's at. With plenty of historic trails all over the state, there is no shortage of places to go and things to see in nature.

But not all students' plans include traveling. UNO senior Emily Anderson said she will

be partying with friends during her time away from classes.

"I will definitely be hitting up the bars in Omaha," Anderson said. "Dubliner, Sake Bombers and the [Dundee] Dell are always fun."

While Omaha may not be the most ideal place for students to spend their week, there are plenty of activities going on for everyone to enjoy during some much-needed time off.

Entertainment Editor Andrea Barbe contributed to this report.

## Jimmy Fallon has a rocky "Late Night" TV debut

MAUREEN RYAN  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

You have to give Jimmy Fallon credit for one thing: He has pretty great taste in music.

The house band for "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," which premiered Monday night on NBC, is the outstanding Philadelphia hip-hop/R&B band the Roots. Closing out Fallon's jittery first show was the legendary Van Morrison. And guest Justin Timberlake provided comic relief by imitating John Mayer, Barry Gibb and Michael McDonald during his stint on Fallon's couch.

Apparently NBC doesn't want to give the Roots their own show (more's the pity). And on talk shows and "Saturday Night Live," Timberlake always seems completely at ease - no doubt any network would give him a show in a heartbeat.

But, well, for now, we've got Jimmy Fallon. At one point during his opening interview with Robert DeNiro, Fallon was sweating profusely. Sweaty, tense, uptight, nervous, wound-up, keyed up - pick an adjective. Any one of them would describe Fallon's demeanor on opening night.

"I'm very nervous," he said to DeNiro. There was need to point

it out - we could tell.

Of course, it isn't fair to judge a late-night host by his first outing. We'll have to see if, in a few weeks, Fallon still looks like he's had four too many double-espressos before the show.

But it is still valid to wonder if Fallon is suited to this gig. On a late-night show, either the non-interview comedic bits have to be inspired, or the interviews have to be smooth (in a perfect world, both halves of the late-night formula succeed). But, with a few exceptions, neither worked all that well during Fallon's first show. The comedy frequently fell flat, and as a host, Fallon is underwhelming at the moment.

One thing that did work: A bit in which Fallon sang a "slow jam" version of the news succeeded, in large part, thanks to Roots' typically taut playing and singer Tariq "Black Thought" Trotter's impeccable voice and surprisingly good comic timing.

Timberlake's musical impressions were funny, but, this being the we-shill-anything-anytime era at NBC, one of the singer's impressions involved a pitch for a beer. The uncomfortable-looking DeNiro isn't a great late-

SEE FALLON: PAGE 9



# Bravo stars to host metro fashion show

JARED SPENCE  
STAFF WRITER

One local fashion show vows to bring a taste of New York City to the Big "O" for those staying home this spring break.

"Fashion Loud" hits the Slowdown on March 13. Omaha's own premier talent and modeling group, Agency 89, along with KXVO Channel 15 and The Reader, are putting on the event, which will feature 45 models walking down two 12-foot runways in designs from local stores. Runway Boutique, Roots & Wings, Hush Vintage, Francesca's Collection and My Compulsion are all contributing to the fashion show.

"This is just something that's high fashion, like something you would see in New York on the runways," said Agency 89 Executive Director Shannon Young.

Jeffrey Sebelia, best known as the season three winner of Bravo's "Project Runway" and founder of the clothing label Costra Nostra, will host the event along with fellow "Project Runway" alum Stella Zotis.

"We wanted to bring something different that Omaha hasn't seen before," Young said.

The show will also feature live music from British electro-rock act The Delta Fiasco, who just got done touring

with popular rock group Shiny Toy Guns.

The fashion show will be followed by an house party with DJ duo Dirty Tears.

A 2008 Honda Motorcycle from

Dillon Brothers-Harley Davidson will also be raffled off at the event.

Sponsors for the show include Big Brain Productions, Stokes Grill & Bar, Juice Stop, VIP Limousine and Red Bull, among others.

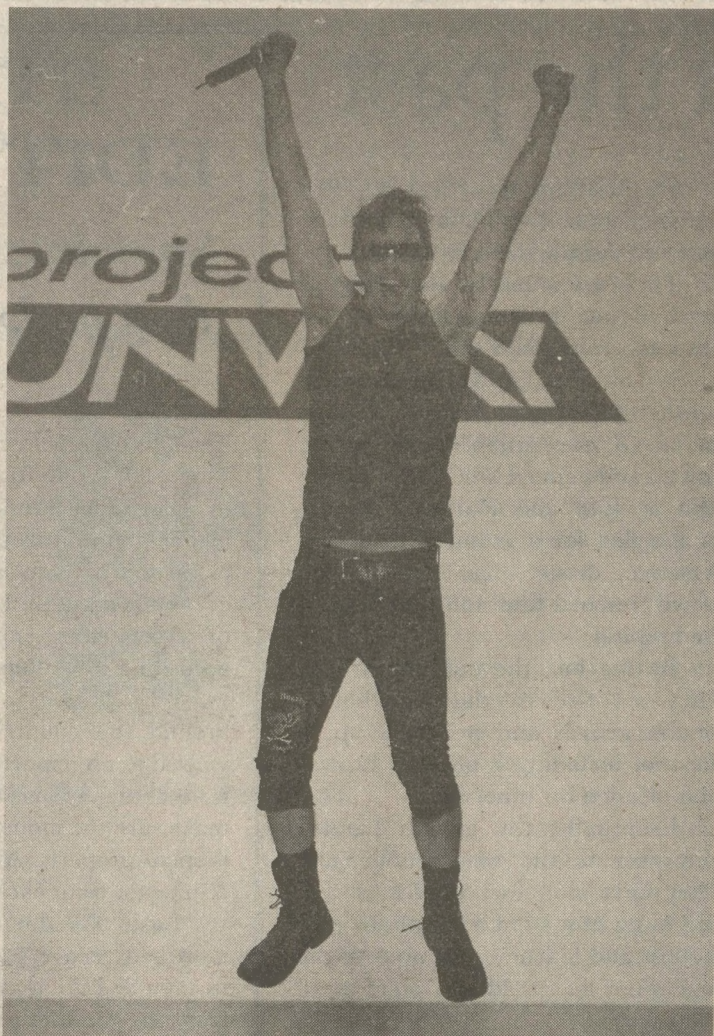
Young said the mission of the fashion show is to fuse music and fashion together, and bring the North Downtown, also known as NoDo, community closer.

"Bringing the community together is definitely what our focus is," Young said. "[This event] is encompassing rock, fashion and different people from different backgrounds together."

A portion of the proceeds from this event will go to benefit the Hope Center for Kids.

"When we were looking to partner [with an organization], we looked for something that reached out to kids," Young said.

Tickets for "Fashion Loud" are \$25 in advance for general admission or \$30 day of show, and can be purchased at the Slowdown or at any Homer's Music stores. VIP tickets are available for \$100 and can be purchased by contacting Michelle Stephenson by email at michelles@agency89.com or by phone at 758-8989 ext. 6056.



Jeffrey Sebelia celebrating after winning the third season of "Project Runway." Sebelia will host "Fashion Loud" in Omaha on March 13. (GREGORIO BINUYA/ABACA PRESS/MCT)

FROM FALLON: PAGE 8

night guest, but at least Fallon had the sense to draw attention to the actor's reticence. He even said he'd devised a series of questions that required one-word answers, but DeNiro occasionally was generous enough to give Fallon four-word answers. The minutes flew by like hours.

At least the show opened on a humorous note, with Fallon finding Conan O'Brien, the previous "Late Night" host, in his dressing room. Fallon asked if O'Brien would be taking over Jay Leno's old dressing room when Leno steps down from "The Tonight Show," which O'Brien is taking over.

"Jay's not leaving," O'Brien said in a strained voice.

What followed was frequently strained as well. Fallon's monologue was surprisingly bland and free of zingers, and he hasn't yet mastered the trick of reading from cue cards or a Teleprompter without blatantly appearing to do so.

A pre-taped piece about the show's pursuit of a coveted demographic - blonde mothers - was a waste of time. Slightly better was "Lick it for \$10," an audience-challenge game that gave off a low-budget "Price Is Right" vibe. "Space Train," a brief vignette starring DeNiro and Fallon, was achingly unfunny.

These were bits that Fallon and his staff had weeks to work on. You'd think they could have done better. Even if those aspects of the show improve, unless Fallon calms down a great deal, it's hard to see the new version of "Late Night" being part of the pre-bedtime ritual for Conan's old crowd.

Then again, Conan's "Late Night" start was notoriously rocky. At least until Fallon improves, we can enjoy the Roots every night.



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As I mentioned two weeks ago, Omaha has a terrible history regarding race relations. In that column, I wrote about "A Time for Burning," an Academy Award-nominated film that documented the fallout of a local church's step toward integration in 1966. Forty-seven years earlier, possibly the worst event in Omaha history took place. It is hard to write about because it is so disgusting.

On September 25, 1919, African-American packinghouse worker Will Brown was accused of raping 19-year-old Agnes Loebeck while she was out with her boyfriend.

Calling it part of a pandemic of black men assaulting white women, local yellow-journalism rag The Omaha Bee sensationalized the alleged rape in an article titled "Black Beast First Stick-Up Couple." (Yeah, I too don't know what that's supposed to mean, grammatically or otherwise.)

Despite the fact that Loebeck had not made a positive identification of her assailant, and that 41-year-old Brown suffered from an acute rheumatism that would have left him too weak to overpower Loebeck, police officers arrested Brown anyway and held him at the Douglas County Courthouse.

Racial tensions were already high in Omaha. The alleged rape was all it took for those volatile feelings to explode into a citywide riot.

On the afternoon of Sept. 29, 1919 a mob of about 4,000 Omaha citizens gathered outside the courthouse.

They threw bricks and sticks at the building, breaking most of the windows on its south side.

When Omaha Mayor Edward Smith tried to talk some sense into the crowd, they grabbed him, strung him up and hanged him from a traffic light at 16th and Harney. There, he dangled for a moment until city detectives drove a car through the crowd, rescued him and took him to the hospital.

By this time, the mob was furious. They set fire to the courthouse, forcing guards and prisoners up to the roof including a nervous Brown, who pleaded his innocence.

Eventually, the guards handed him over to the now-gleeful mob. They beat him, tore off his clothes and hung him from a telephone post at 18th and Harney. Sections of the rope were later sold to rioters at 10 cents apiece.

This wasn't enough for the delirious crowd. They riddled Brown's lifeless body with bullets, tied him to an automobile and dragged him to 17th and Dodge. They lit his corpse on fire and took pictures. I have seen these photos. Everyone is smiling proudly and mugging for the camera like they're at a family reunion.

The riot continued until 3 a.m., at which point troops from Fort Omaha

SEE **MCCAULEY**: PAGE 12

## STAFF EDITORIAL

### Stimulus spending opens door for local watchdogs

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, the first major piece of legislation to pass under President Obama, has received media attention around the world. The intention of the act is to relieve the national and global economic crisis and, as of February, 67 percent of Americans support Obama's decision, according to Gallup.

With billions of dollars being distributed around the country, perhaps this should be viewed as an opportunity for true democracy. It is now the responsibility of American citizens to make sure the money allocated for our recovery is spent properly. All this requires is a little bit of interest from each of us.

Last Tuesday, the State of Nebraska launched [recovery.nebraska.org](http://recovery.nebraska.org). The Web site is intended to track every dollar we receive from the stimulus package — all 1.2 billion of it. With the explosive emergence of the Internet, the idea of having information available online goes hand in hand with accountability. If every American is able to log on and see exactly what is happening with his or her tax dollars, the public would be better for it.

The idea for our accountability Web site was inspired by [stimulus.virginia.org](http://stimulus.virginia.org). In charge of \$4.5 trillion, the State of Virginia has a daunting task compared to Nebraska. But accountability, be it for \$4.5 trillion or \$4,500, is absolutely necessary.

On Feb. 17, district senators from around Nebraska wrote a letter calling on the Nebraska Legislature to create a Web site similar to Virginia's. A few weeks later, Nebraska was set to join the 25 other states making moves to increase transparency with stimulus funds.

While there are no statistics yet to report, the federal government has imposed a timeline, available at [www.recovery.gov](http://www.recovery.gov), that intends to have the stimulus money in use by this spring and for progress reports to begin arriving this summer.

With the cost of the trillions spent in Iraq fresh in the collective memory, Americans have grown wary of the long-term picture. As we progress through these difficult financial times, we should watch our money and how it is spent to prevent unnecessary governmental control and spending.

The Omaha World-Herald recently published an extensive list of each project receiving recovery dollars and how much they are being allowed. \$600,000 is for a project intended to improve Nebraska's methamphetamine treatment and correction services, while \$476,000 is intended for a civic-leadership training program.

These, compared to Nebraska's \$1.2 billion, are only a small portion. The remainder is headed for similar projects focused on community repair and scientific research.

To those crying wolf at the monumental stimulus attempt, remember that there were no other options. With McCain's interruption of the presidential debates to focus on the economic crash, we should have expected such an outcome no matter how the politics were divided.

Nebraskans should feel fortunate that we have been provided with a resource to monitor the fruits of our democracy. The important factor is that we actually use the resources that have been provided to us. At this point, the only ones we can expect to blame for failure are ourselves.

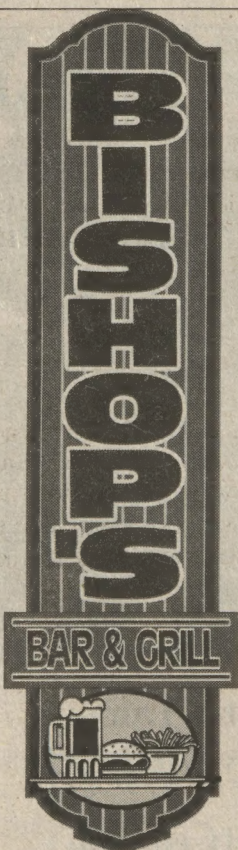
### Told You So



Tom McCauley

we are, but won't run gay wedding announcements. Con-Agra can tell the city to demolish a district of historic buildings and the city will do it.

We could spend all day talking about the things Omaha could actually do to make itself not only look better, but be better. Instead, I think it's good to talk about what Omaha has done wrong so we can avoid similar mistakes in the future.



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#### WEDNESDAY

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#### THURSDAY

College Night \$1.00 Drafts  
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Miller Lite

#### FRIDAY

Happy Hour All Night and  
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#### SATURDAY

\$2.50 Drafts and \$6.00 Pitch-  
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# Biking while drinking

Millions of Americans start their day nearly the same way. Many take showers and brush their pearly whites, but one thing that's rarely forgotten is our morning cup of coffee. If by chance you don't make your coffee at home, there is always an endless array of possibilities to cure your itch on the commute to work.

Here is where I differ in how I enjoy my coffee. My mornings never include a mad dash to Starbucks, waiting in my car and ordering a drink in which I can only taste whipped cream and chocolate fudge.

That's not what I want. I want coffee. And not just any coffee either. I'm quite particular about it.

You won't catch me at a gas station filling up a cup or buying beans from supermarkets any longer. When you have tasted excellence, why go back to Folgers or whatever useless junk that wastes space on the store shelves? I just feel coffee should have a finer taste, much like that of a micro-brewed beer or a fine wine.

A few years ago all I drank was tea. I thought I was so unique, going to coffee shops and ordering outlandish kinds of tea, such as "Botswana Blossom." Then I came across a study that said, "Having coffee before your (bicycle) ride relaxed your legs." It seems as though there is always a study of something going on, and I tend to discard the majority of them. But for some odd reason, as a guy who lives on his bike day-in and day-out, I was curious to give coffee a spin.

So, during the trial stages, I would buy the finest coffee that I could find - most of the time at my local grocery store. I wanted my experience to be different, so I purchased coffee beans to hopefully give myself an authentic, fresh-roasted taste. Now I must admit I'm terrible at following directions. On the

bag it read, "One scoop of beans is equal to six ounces of coffee." My coffeemaker had something entirely different.

So, it was morning. I was unwilling to measure out the beans as the directions said, resulting in the bitterest cup of coffee I've ever tasted. Alas, I didn't care about taste at that point. I just wanted my legs to be unchained from their shackles of soreness from the previous day's

riding. And wow, I felt great. My legs screamed up hills as if they had weeks of uninterrupted rest. Eventually, I got the measuring thing down, and needless to say, I'm hooked.

Coffee drinkers are often labeled as unfriendly, cranky monsters when they can't get a cup. This, to me, seems ridiculous; it's just a matter of control. Some people have

it and some do not. I see coffee as a welcome friend that awakens me as I pedal for miles on end.

I believe coffee, (as a drink) isn't enjoyed as much as it should be. There is always this panic and restlessness associated with it when starting your day. But when you take time to smell the roses you give yourself a chance to sit, let your mind be free and sip coffee.

Now it's morning again and I rise from my bed as the sun begins to creep through the gaps of my pearl white blinds. With the everyday stresses of life bearing down on me, will I crumble and let them defeat me? Will I slowly cover my face with bedding in an attempt to hide?

A thought pours into my subconsciousness as I am between dreams and reality. Suddenly a rush of feelings empowers me. Thoughts of hope in this world encircle me. This catapults me from the cocoon of self pity and hiding.

I think I'll have a cup of coffee.

## FROM CHOICES: PAGE 1

Spady's presentation will be followed by students participating in an obstacle course with tricycles and beer goggles starting at 12:15 p.m.

At 1 p.m., the event will feature a panel discussion with Spady; Nate Bock, coordinator of Alcohol and Other Drug Education; David Corbin, a professor in the School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation; and students who have experienced the consequences of binge drinking.

All of the activities will take place in the Milo Bail Student Center Nebraska Room, which is located on the second floor by the food court.

Nickel's story began as the crowd started to thin out the night of Nov. 16 at The Waiting Room Lounge as Nickel and her friend waited to see Shiny Toy Guns.

Nickel began the evening as many college students do, with her friend bringing her a Guinness from the bar as the opening act Your Vegas took the stage. While Shiny Toy Guns performed their combination of rock, electronic and synthpop, Nickel noticed a guy whose friend had put the moves on her earlier.

"Next thing I know, the concert is over and he and his friend are asking me and my friend to sit with him," Nickel said.

Nickel began to drink heavily, she said, downing another Guinness, an Irish car bomb, a rum and Coke, a Bud Light and probably more.

"I don't really remember because the guys just kept buying me drink after drink after drink," Nickel said.

Nickel suspected the guys were subconsciously buying her drinks to loosen her up, she said. However, that didn't stop her from making out in public with one of them.

"The next thing I know, my friend is driving me and this guy back to my room," Nickel said.

When they got back to Nickel's dorm room, they had what Nickel described as consensual sex.

"It's not like he raped me or anything," Nickel said.

Nickel said she remembered waking up, realizing she had class and decided to call her boyfriend to tell him what happened.

"I don't think I would have done anything that crazy had I not had a lot to drink," Nickel said.

The loss of inhibitions, even when intended, has serious consequences for many more students than Nickel, though.

As many as 70 percent of college students had admitted to having sex primarily as a result of being under the influence, according to Facts on Tap, a prevention and intervention program run by the Phoenix House. Nine out of every 10 rapes on college campuses nationally involve alcohol by the attacker or victim.

However, Nickel was lucky to not join the more than 1,700 college students who die annually from alcohol-related incidents,

# Students deserve to have voice, vote on allocation of Fund B fees

Every year in recent memory, someone asks the inevitable question of why students don't have a binding vote in the allocation of Fund B University Program and Facilities Fees, which constitute the majority of student fees paid at UNO.

This year, it was Sen. Mark Patel, a former Gateway news writer, who asked Wade Robinson, associate vice chancellor of Student Affairs, why students didn't have more say in the process.

Robinson's response this year was, while sincere and understandable, still reflects the fundamentally wrong attitudes towards oversight and student rights.

Robinson told Patel, while the Student Senate had no voting rights on the Fund B proposals, the campus wouldn't take it before the Board of Regents if the student representatives didn't support it.

"Ultimately, you have all the say, and it's 365 days per year, because we're not going to do anything without your say," Robinson said.

While Robinson's detailed presentation about Fund B - including 40 minutes of discussion on the increases going towards the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building bond, learning centers on campus, software upgrades and "cultural enrichment" (which costs \$5 per student per semester) - represents considerable improvement towards involving students, it still fails to guarantee students the right to be involved.

Simply because Robinson chose to be forthcoming this year doesn't mean that will continue in the future or beyond his tenure as vice chancellor. Allowing students a formal vote is the only way to make sure our voices are always heard.

The objection Robinson raised at the Student Senate meeting on Thursday was that he does not feel comfortable with students directly overseeing a fund that consists primarily of salary and benefits for university employees.

Robinson told the senators that, when

you're talking about impacting personnel at that level, he considers it the responsibilities of the directors and himself. Apparently, the fact that these employees' primary job function is to serve the students of the university is of little consequence.

Either that or Robinson doesn't believe that college students are up to the task of making important decisions involving salaries, which are at the mercy of the university officials only because the staff doesn't conduct collective bargaining like the faculty.

If students are up to the task, there's no reason they shouldn't be involved directly with a binding vote, since Robinson says without student support, the proposals would be dropped anyway.

If students aren't up for the task, the university might want to reevaluate its admissions criteria, because by the time students are in college, they should be able to make informed, responsible decisions.

The way I understand it, there can be no harm in allowing students a vote, unless the university wants to retain the ability to overrule student priorities.

There shouldn't be any secrets with the process either, since anyone - UNO student or not - can go down to the Criss Library and look up the salary of anyone on the university payroll.

In fact, for the benefit of the students in Jerry Cederblom's critical reasoning class analyzing newspaper editorials, the argument is straightforward and deductive:

1. Students deserve input in student-centered, non-academic programs.
2. Fund B student fees supports student-centered, non-academic programs.
3. Therefore, students deserve input in Fund B.
4. Without a binding vote, the administration can overlook student input on Fund B.
5. The allocation Fund B has no binding

SEE STEWART: PAGE 12

## Sinister Slant



Scott Stewart

## Go Places

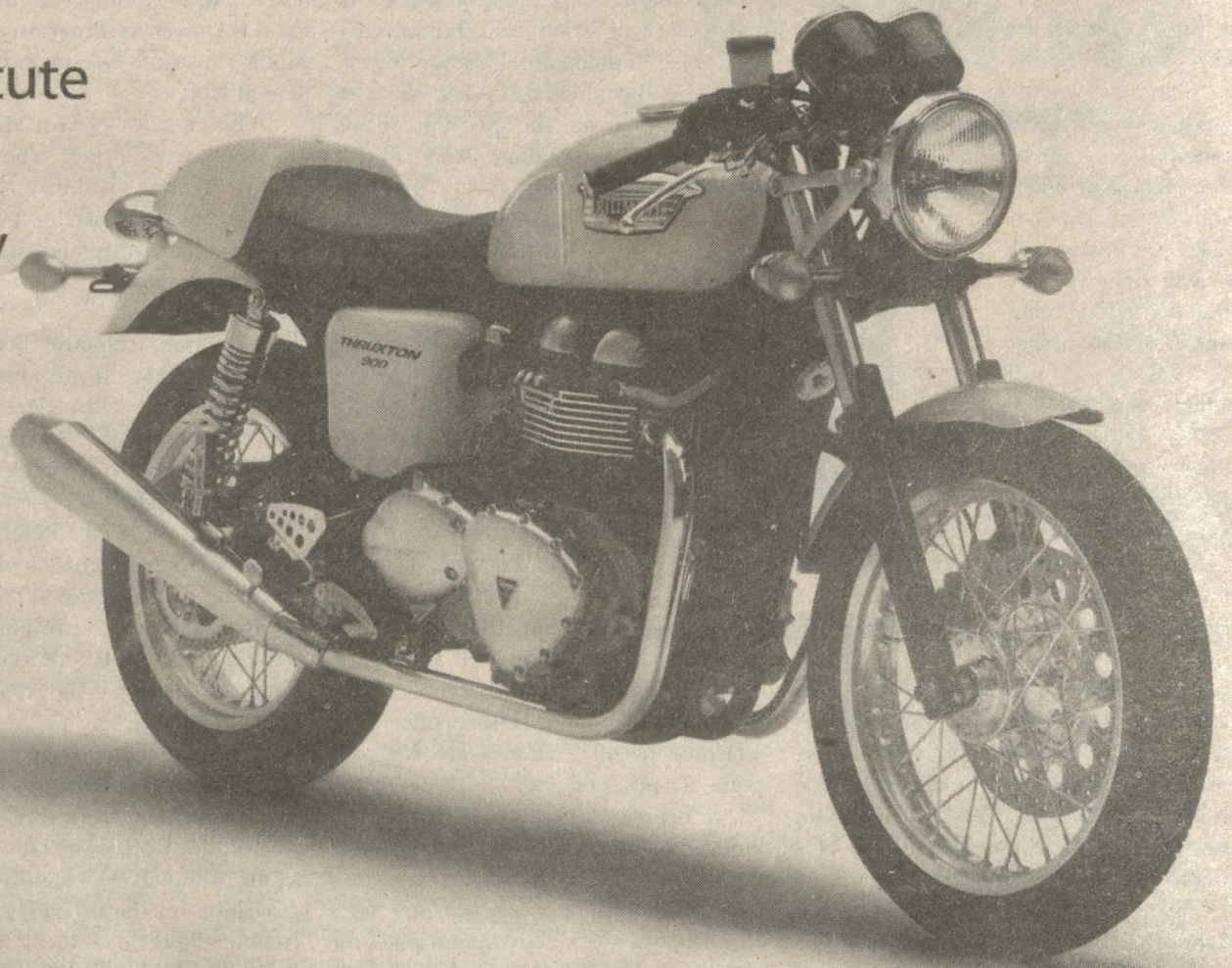


Eric Brunt



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FROM **STEWART: PAGE 11**  
student vote.

6. Therefore, the administration can overlook student input on Fund B.

7. Therefore, students do not have the input they deserve in Fund B.

The only way to attack that argument, from my viewpoint, is to reject the first premise – something I'm not personally willing to do, but that Robinson and the rest of the UNO administration seem to feel comfortable with doing.

Until students are given a binding vote – either one similar to UNL's Committee for Fee Allocation or an up-down vote on the student election ballot – student fees at UNO will remain a bone of contention between the administration and those who favor student rights.

I just hope it doesn't take the administration trumping the wishes of the students for any real change to ever take place.

FROM **MCCAULEY: PAGE 10**

and Fort Crook arrived to quell the mob. By sunrise, three people had been killed, many more were wounded and the mayor was in and out of coma. Though easily identifiable in photographs of the riot, all suspects were eventually freed.

In 1919, the population in Omaha was about 191,000. With an estimated 5,000 to 15,000 rioters, that means 3 to 8 percent of the city participated in the mob. To put this into perspective, that would be like 13,000 to 67,000 insurrectionists today.

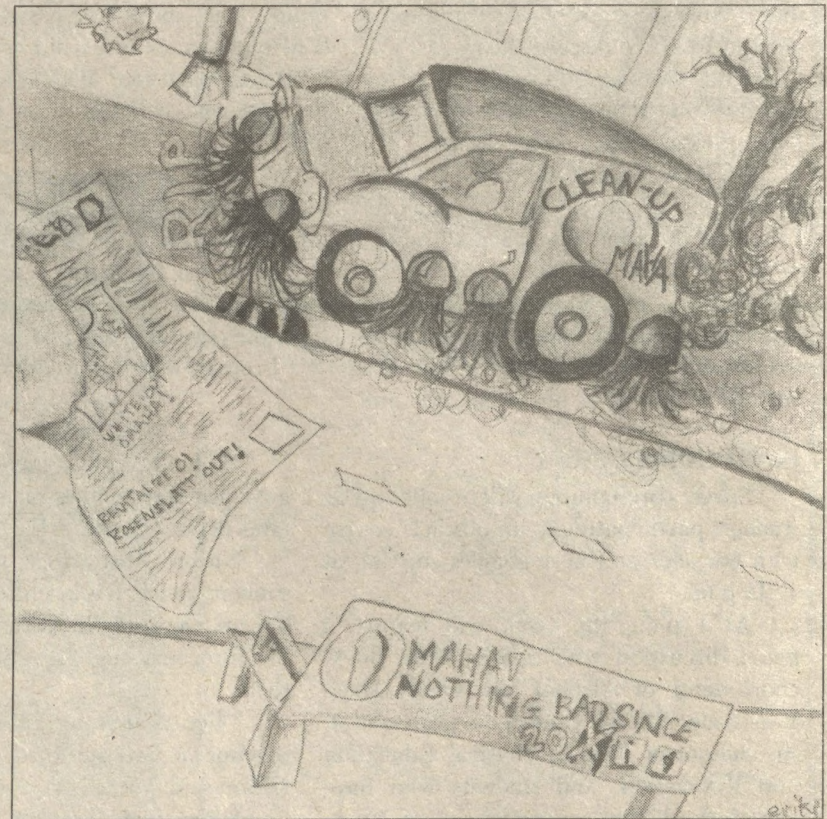
This is still an enormous blight on Omaha history.

Recently, a friend of mine proposed erecting some kind of memorial at 18th and Harney, the scene of the lynching.

The City Council and the Business Improvement District vetoed the idea, deeming it "too negative" just because it didn't fit into the totally vapid and meaningless "O! What a City" campaign.

Since then, locals have chalked "RIP Will Brown" and other history-conscious messages on the sidewalk as a way to quiet the ghosts of the past.

Still, it would be nice to have the city do something in memory. Sure, it will only be a symbolic atonement, but that's better than nothing at all. This time, let's hope Omaha will not stop at nothing.



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